

## **David J. Galas, Ph.D. (1944-2023)**

We are saddened by the passing of our friend and colleague David Galas. Our sympathies and best wishes go out to his family, friends and colleagues at this difficult time.

David was an exceptional person who made enormous contributions to WRF and to the broader field of genomics and systems biology. David headed the Human Genome Project from 1990-1993 when he served as Director for Health and Environmental Research at the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science. He assumed leadership roles in a host of programs in the US and globally, including the Hertz Foundation, the National Academy of Sciences and the Pacific Northwest Research Institute. Throughout his career, David was a dedicated advocate for the responsible use of genetic technology and made significant contributions to the understanding and application of genomics and systems biology. Beyond his remarkable professional achievements, David was an inspiring colleague and a cherished friend to many. His wisdom, guidance and vision as a member of the WRF Board of Directors helped propel our organization to new heights.

David inspired and drove forward our postdoctoral fellowship program, the jewel in the crown of WRF, as its inaugural chair. He was admired for his unswerving integrity, his endless curiosity and his unwavering dedication to advancing scientific careers for young scholars and the betterment of all. He was widely respected for his scientific insights, his leadership in both academic and industrial settings, and his commitment to ethical considerations in biotechnology. David has left an indelible mark not only in science but also in the hearts of all who had the privilege to work with him.

We encourage you to learn more about David's life and work at [davidjgalasphd.com](http://davidjgalasphd.com). He made a huge difference in our world. We will miss him.

*Washington Research Foundation Board of Directors and Staff*